



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Applicant: Chris Lacombe, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/734,453  
Art Unit: 3644  
Filed: December 12, 2003  
Examiner: Bret C. Hayes  
For: **"APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR BLAST SUPPRESSION"**

RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS  
AND TRADEMARKS  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Hayes:

This is a response to the First Office Action in the captioned matter. A shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on January 4, 2005. This response is made on March 4, 2005 by Certificate of Mailing Procedure provided in 37 CFR 1.8, together with a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and required fee, and is therefore timely.